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Inside

Windy city walk sets pace for vacation excursion

pages 4 & 5

Taking advantage of the age of technology, educators have incorporated the capabilities of computers to updating the format of progress reports.

by Michelle Jao

Computers simplify reports

As computers play an increasing role in today's society, Glenbard East has followed the trend by changing the old written progress reports into a new computerized system.

The computer process simplifies the progress report procedure, according to assistant principal Don Kersemeier. "The computers make it easier for teachers to process the reports," he said. "In the past teachers had to spend the time filling in all the blanks."

With the new system, teachers enter a few specific pieces of data such as the student ID and the date. The computer displays numbered statements which are both positive and negative. Teachers choose the appropriate statements. The process eliminates the time teachers spend on writing out the general information.

Students believe the use of computers removes the personal aspect of the reports, "The old reports were more personal," senior Cheri Koenig said. "It seems as though the computer is telling you what you did wrong instead of the personal input of a teacher."

Junior Jenny Moravec agreed with Koenig. "I liked the old way better because they really specified what you're doing wrong and right. The new computerized ones are so general," Moravec said.

English teacher Maureen Barney, however, disagrees. "Using the computer in no way takes away the personal concern that the teacher has," she said. "We still hve to sit and analyze each student as before."

Kersemeier agrees with Barney. "There is always a danger of becoming less personal, but how personal can you get saying a student didn't do any homework?" Kersemeier said.

Reaction to the new reports, according to Kersemeier, has been positive. "I have not heard of any teachers complaining," he said. "Many have said that they like this way better. It looks a lot neater."

"The appearance is much neater than a teacher's handwriting," business teacher Lisa Beckwith said. "It's also time saving in terms of addressing.

Kersemeier believes the new reports are more flexible. "If the staff needs to add comments or leave out some, we can easily change the program," Kersemeier said. "Every year we will sit down and evaluate the statements."

The computerized reports are also expected to change the negative connotation associated with past progress reports. "Initially, they were called pep-ups and were sent home only when students weren't measuring up," Kersemeier said. "Now there is an emphasis on equal balance between suggestions for improvement as well as recognition for a good job."

Assistant principal Don Kersemeier comments on the new progress reports.

State designates admission standards

by Gina Nolan

As students in the class of 1990 begin to create four-year plans, they will have to make careful class decisions because of new admission standards for state public universities.

The new requirements for college freshmen include four years of English, three years of social studies, three years of math, three years of science, and two years of a foreign language, music, or art class.

Before the new requirements were finalized, there were no state minimum requirements.

Currently only two schools, University of Illinois-Urbana and University of Illinois-Chicago have requirements.

According to John Huther, deputy director for policy studies on the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the goal of the new requirements is to improve the preparation of students for baccalureate degrees.

"Another thing we want to prevent is the people who have been looking for remedial education in college," Huther said. "The declining test scores in the 1980s has also been a motivation for the new standards."

Southern Illinois University admissions counselor Cathy Walsh has a similar viewpoint. "I think there has been a concern with freshmen entering with a deficiency of skills. It's not the university's job to enter into remedial help in subjects like English, math, and speech," she added.

According to guidance department chairperson Jerry Meyer, the changes were made because colleges complained that students were not prepared.

Despite the positive effects of better prepared college freshmen, there are concerns about fulfilling all the standards, "High schools are going to need to change the planning of students from eighth grade," said Bob Marshall, District 87 curriculum director.

Besides planning for courses, the new standards can possibly affect classes in high school. "There is a distinct possibility of the standards hurting vocational departments at high schools," Marshall said.

Meyer believes that since most college bound seniors take four years of English and three years of math and science already, the substantial difference will appear in the social studies classes. He also thinks that the elective classes could feel the effects.

"Very few college bound students take a third year of social studies now. It's not that they don't want to but that they don't have time," Meyer said.

The new standards may also force students to an early decision about college. "For students going to college, academic preparation is important. But we have a lot of students who won't know if they are going to a four year college or not. They may spend time meeting the requirements and not getting a career preparation," Meyer said.

For the student who does not meet the new admissions standards, there will be provisional requirements made.

"Each university will set up its own provisional requirements," Huther said. "Our policy is that all students should have the possibility to pursue an education."

Walsh suggested that students may be admitted on provisional requirements, such as the following:

- People who have decided to enter college after being out of high school for a few years.
- Students who come from a high school that does not provide all of the required courses.
- Students who will make up deficiencies in college without college credit.

'Truth, you see, can never be refuted.' — Plato

Opinion

English department: a classic situation

Policy restrains corporal touch

by Shirish Bhatt

To clarify teachers' positions on physical contact with students, District 87 adopted its first policy on physical contact and corporal punishment of students on Dec. 9.

"The policy was adopted in response to the Glenbard Education Association," Stevens said. "It clarifies what the responsibility of the teacher is under a variety of situations concerning physical contact with students and teachers."

The policy states a teacher may restrain a student to prevent the following:

- imminent injury to the teacher, the student, or other persons
- imminent damage to school property
- imminent and significant disruption of the school program
- a student from fleeing disciplinary action when the student is not known to the teacher

The policy also states that teachers are limited in the extent of physical contact with students. Employees are not to engage in any type of physical contact with students for either a sexual or disciplinary purpose. Teachers violating this policy can be dismissed.

"GEA brought up the proposal for a district policy over two years ago," said Ben Wasman, former GEA president. "There were many questions concerning what the proper action of a teacher should be when struck by a student. Before, all we could do was simply identify the student and report their actions to the dean since we did not have any policy to go on."

"The policy was necessary," Wasman said, "because of instances at all Glenbards where students had struck teachers and teachers were seriously injured. Before, if a teacher happened to assault a student while trying to prevent school damage, we would be held responsible. Now, however, we have something to defend our actions," Wasman said.

Assistant principal Florence Saimon thinks corporal punishment should not be necessary. "We ought to be able to handle the situation in another manner rather than resort to physical punishment," she said. According to Saimon, corporal punishment of any form has a very negative effect. She thinks students respond to reasoning rather than to physical abuse.

Junior Rick Schertz believes the policy rests on the judgment of the teachers. "The policy is all right as long as a teacher doesn't beat a student excessively when restraining him," he said.

Wasman believes the present disciplinary measures do not work since discipline should alter behavior. "The law binds the community's hands. The community binds the board's hands. The board binds the administration's hands, and the administration binds our hands on what we can do as far as physical disciplining is concerned," Wasman said.

According to Wasman, anytime a student is sent to the dean, the teacher is excluded from the situation. He believes the teacher should be present with the dean when decided on the severity of the punishment. "I don't advocate corporal punishment," Wasman said, "but it would work at times."

Illinois to initiate accelerated learning program

by Dave Seng

To help Illinois utilize student potential, the Corridor Parnership for Excellence in Education will open a residential math and science high school in Aurora next September.

The goals of the program are to fully develop a gifted student's math and science skills and to provide well educated students for industry, according to Stephanie Marshall, member of the board of trustees.

"We want to provide an academic program for exceptionally gifted students in math and science," Marshall said.

The tuition-free school will enroll 600-800 students but for three years instead of four. Students who are selected may enroll in the math/science school after completing their freshman year at a regular high school.

After graduation, students may enroll in any Illinois college at a sophomore level, said Gary Jewel, another trustee.

Since only one school will serve Illinois, residences will be built. The school plans to enroll the first class of 200 next September.

The trustees must still complete several tasks: establishment of entrace criteria, selection of students and staff, and determination of dorm requirements.

The biggest task right now is to identify the 200 kids," Jewel said. "The other is to identify and recruit an outstanding faculty."

Although criteria have not yet been established, students will probably be selected by a series of tests and teacher recommendations, according to Jewel.

Freshman Carisa Balgemann believes the school could offer a special opportunity for advanced studies. "I'm extremely interested in science, and it would be great if I could do intensive studies," she said.

Math teacher Phil McHenry believes the board of trustees should establish criteria soon. "At this point I haven't considered recommending anyone," he said. "I have to wait until I get the criteria."

Although no procedure has been established, physics teacher Leslie Nyckel believes some East students could be candidates. "I would say of the four years I've taught, I've known about three to five students who could handle it," she said.

At present, the board of trustees is electing a director and plans to select a staff.

Nickel voiced another concern: "I think among the public and private high schools the bright kids have enough opportunities."

The school, according to Marshall, will offer a broad liberal arts program, including English, art, music, and humanities, but it will accentuate math and science. "The course work available here would really be limitless," Jewel said.

Math teacher Marty Donnelly believes the school's advanced courses could benefit the state. "If Illinois expects to have high-tech jobs in the future, then Illinois will have to have a school to educate students for that kind of job, " he said.

Although physical education will be required according to state law, Marshall is concerned about interscholastic sports. "I assume we will have some kind of interscholastic or intramural sports activities," she said.

Nyckel is concerned about the curriculum. "I would hate to see it a school for super-bright kids and do nothing but super-bright things," she said. "You need music, drama, and athletics to be a well-rounded person."

McHenry believes that making the school residential could adversely affect students. "I don't think it's a good idea to take them away from family and friends," he said. "I'd prefer it to be the type of school you could attend during the day and commute home at night."

According to Marge Cox, District 87 director of instruction, Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory was the genesis of the project. "The original idea came from Fermilab," she said.

Accent on events

Advisory Council: 'The CAC is a vehicle to give the administration some advice.'

Consumer test: 'I would be willing to take the test just to free one hour of the day.'

Pacemaker: 'It's a very satisfying feeling, and it makes all the hard work worthwhile.'

Regional award illustrates success

Garnering another national honor, the Echo accepted a regional Pacemaker award, one of 18 in the nation, in Cleveland on Nov. 24 at the National Scholastic Press Association awards brunch.

"It's a very satisfying feeling, and it makes all the hard work worth it," managing editor Gina Nolan said.

To qualify for the Pacemaker, the Echo had to receive a five-star, all-American rating with marks of distinction in coverage and content, in writing and editing, in opinion content, in design, and in photography, art and graphics. The Pacemaker competition was judged by editors of the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Former managing editor Tom Koutsky also recognized the quality of the Echo. "This year's paper is a lot better. There is great potential to do things we wanted to do last year, things like extra issues and special projects. Since the Echo has a strong executive board and an experienced staff, there will be no barriers," Koutsky said.

While in Cleveland, Echo editors — Greg Jao, Laura Ulfers, Jeannie Ryba, and Dave Landahl — appeared on a major talk show, "Morning Exchange," to promote the paperback edition of *Teenagers Themselves*.

Concert renews holiday festivities

Presenting its gift to the community, the symphonic band and the combined choir will celebrate the season with a holiday concert in Biester auditorium on Dec. 19 at 8 p.m.

"The concert is a nice way to start the holidays," choral director Ross Heise said.

Band and choir members also anticipate the coming of the holidays. "The holiday concert is special because it is part of a tradition and because it is fun to do. The holidays are a special time of the year," sophomore Janice Shoulders said.

The concert, which will begin with the traditional candlelight procession, features familiar songs such as 'Twas the Night Before Christmas" and "Gloria." The concert will close with a sing-along of three or more Christmas carols.

During the concert the band will perform songs like "Russian Christmas Music" and "Christmas Spectacular."

Smokers inhale advice at clinics

Snuffing out a bad habit, six students discussed methods of quitting smoking during Wednesday afternoon clinics conducted by David Wolfe.

Students learned reasons for smoking, individual smoking characteristics and patterns, and ways to compensate for not smoking.

Wolfe set the goal for students to stop smoking by the end of the clinic. Wolfe thinks it's too early to determine whether any of the students have made any progress, but students believe the program has been helpful.

"I've reduced from a pack every two days to a pack a week. I'm pretty sure I'll stop," junior JoAnn Macri said. "We learned that people smoke because they are depressed or mad or they just like the idea of it."

Senior Victoria Tufano, who has been smoking for six years, agrees. "It's great. I've already cut down five to six cigarettes a day," she said. Quitting is important to Tufano, who wants to stop smoking because of the expense and because of the possibility of lung cancer. "Writing down the reasons why I smoke helps me control my problem better," she said.

Sophomore Eric Nelson, however, has doubts about the program's effectiveness. He thinks it will work only if students have the determination to make it work.

To prepare for the clinic, Wolfe enrolled in a special class sponsored by the American Lung Association. He enjoys teaching the clinic. "If I can help students drop a bad habit, it makes me feel good," he said.

Citizens council voices suggestions

Discussing topics ranging from overcrowded late buses to the effectiveness of honors classes, the Citizens Advisory Council hopes to continue its tradition of past accomplishments.

At its first meeting on Oct. 24, the CAC discussed new goals as well as past achievements. The committee cited substance abuse, co-op internship, computers, the SAT/ACT seminar and preparation classes, and honors and basics classes as areas that it has helped to improve in the past.

One of the committee's major concerns is the public perception of the school. The members would like the public to know about the positive aspects of the school.

Other concerns included the number of classes students have. Members discussed the idea of students being able to test out of required classes like consumer education and health. Motivating teachers and low achieving students, keeping students and parents aware of drug and alcohol abuse, and better scheduling of classes are all areas which the CAC wishes to improve.

The purpose of the CAC is to give interested parents information about the school administration, to give the administration recommendations from parents, and to serve as a study group for projects determined by the principals and council.

"The CAC is a vehicle to give the administration some advice," said Magnus Seng, former CAC president.

Coming events

December
- **19** Holiday concert — Beister 8 p.m.
- **23** Christmas vacation begins

January
- **5** School resumes
- **8, 16** Math contest — Cafe 2:45 p.m.
- **20** No school — Martin Luther King's birthday
- **21** No school — Teachers Institute

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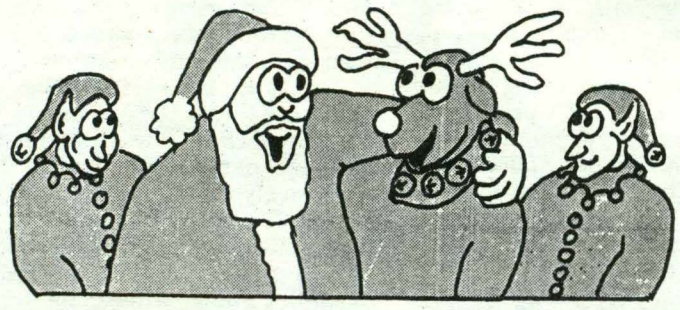
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Bakery: paradise of seasonal scents

by Kevin Ellerbruch

Walking into the Eastgate Bakery at the Eastgate Shopping Center is the best Christmas gift a person can give to his sense of smell and taste. One deep breath and the bakery is easily mistaken for heaven.

Looking around, a person can see cookies, cakes, rolls, donuts, pies, and eclaires. The final baked goods are only the beginning of the adventure.

With Christmas being the second busiest time of the year, a step behind Easter, preparations are already underway.

Owner and manager Gary Keller gears up for the Yuletide season by displaying gingerbread houses and other Christmas specialties.

Keller and production supervisor Bill Gilbert are ready for the Christmas rush. They usually begin baking at 11 p.m., but they will start extra early on Christmas Eve. "We'll start around 6 p.m. and stay until the job is done," Keller said.

Like elves, the two will be busy operating the machines needed to get the job done. The 160-quart mixer, which stands approximately five feet tall, will churn as the ovens heat up.

The sheeter, a machine which breaks down and thins dough, will prepare the batter for the bake table.

On the 5' by 15' table, the dough will be transformed into Christmas characters. While most bakeries buy their fruit fillings, Keller makes his own.

"We mix things my father's way. I feel if people want to buy from me, they expect a fresh, high quality product. It costs a little more to run, but the public wants quality and that's what they'll get here," Keller said.

Kelly Wagler, a customer of the bakery, highly recommends their pastries. "They made me a beautiful birthday cake, and the people were very friendly," Wagler said.

Keller, who bought the Eastgate Bakery on Dec. 1, 1984, enjoys serving the public. "Through a lot of hard work, the bakery has come a long way," Keller said.

Carol Waisganis, an employee of the Eastgate drug store, purchases her baking needs at Keller's bakery. Waisganis plans to buy her Christmas treats there.

"I like the bakery because the quality is good and it's convenient," she said.

Senior Maureen Sharon also enjoys the delights of the Eastgate Bakery. "Every Christmas my mom brings home cookies with green and red sprinkles. They're really good. They taste like homemade," Sharon said.

The Eastgate Bakery, located at 837 S. Westmore, opens for early risers at 6 a.m. and delivers goodies till 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. The bakery has different hours on weekends and for Christmas.

Teachers concoct holiday confections

by Laura Hobday

As the Yuletide season arrives, the home atmosphere changes. Houses fill with the enticing scents of gingerbread and peppermint. Eyes gleam, and noses tingle as the aroma of baking sweets drifts out of the kitchen.

Baking special holiday treats remains a long-time tradition, which is still maintained by teachers at Glenbard East.

Social studies teacher Alice Gregory bakes her Christmas specialty: fruitcakes. "I make them both for entertainment and as gifts for family and friends," she said.

The fruitcakes consist of candied fruit, nuts, and liquor. "For the chocolate ones, I use creme de cocoa. For the white ones, I use brandy," Gregory said.

Baking Christmas treats is also part of German teacher Petra Teal's Yuletide festivities. Her favortie holiday dessert menu includes cookies, hazelnut crescents, and creole cake, which consists mainly of raisins and nuts.

"By the time I'm finished I have 30 plates of cookies. I give them to friends who don't have time to bake," Teal said.

In contrast, Spanish teacher Jane Willard bakes only for her family. Scotch shortbread, clark bar cookies, and snicker-doodles place as some of her favorite yuletide delights.

"The kids love snicker-doodles the most because they can take their choice of rolling them either in cinnamon and sugar, green sprinkles, or red sprinkles," she said.

People occasionally like to take the tradition to an ultra performance. Physical education teacher Noree Mares made holiday baking a major event for the past 12 years.

The chefs included herself, her sister, her mother, and her grandmother. Their delicacies included zucchini and carrot breads, jelly, Russian teas, kolackies, and about 20 different kinds of cookies.

"I think people appreciate homemade baked goods more. Also it is a lot of fun," she said.

Mares used the sweets as a main source of gifts. She gave them to teachers, administrators, secretaries, and custodial and cafeteria workers at Glenbard East as well as to other friends. This year, however, the tradition ends because of the lack of equipment.

"The old house had two stoves, two freezers, and a big counter to put everything on," she said. Since she has moved, the facilities are no longer available.

Whether on a large scale to use as gifts or on a small scale for family enjoyment, holiday baking provides the traditional scents and tastes of Christmas.

Spicy, sweet aromas wafting through the air signify the arrival of the anticipated season of baking. The rich potential of traditional holiday delights provides an array of taste sensations.

Sidelights

by Doug Elwell

Desserts top holiday

Snickerdoodles: Originally a Pennyslvania Dutch treat, snickerdoodles is a traditional holiday favorite. A crunchy specialty enjoyed by many Yuletide connoisseurs, the cookie melts in the mouth releasing a dominant butter flavor. The crunchy walnuts and raisins accent and complement the mysterious and special underlying taste of currants and nutmeg.

Plum pudding: A thick, rich, dark pudding, plum pudding is characterized by an abundance of alcohol, including a cup of rum or brandy and stout, ale, or beer. The brandy is set alight, creating the effect of blue flames rippling across the surface.

The pudding is almost a bready combination of prunes or dates, raisins, ginger, currants, candied oranges and lemon peels, and a host of spices. The pudding attacks the taste with an avalance of taste impression. Like stollen, plum pudding is definitely an acquired taste.

Rum balls: Fairly self-explanatory, the cookies are a drop cookie made from dough containing walnuts, cinnamon, and, of course, rum. The liquor adds that little something extra that saves the cookie from obscurity.

Soft and light, rum balls benefit from the solid, crunchy, nutty taste of the walnuts. The dark, rich, and sweetish taste of rum lingers on the tongue to provide a memory of the snack.

Pfeffernusse: Pepper nuts, or pffeffernusse is a cookie similar to rum balls. The cookies are much spicier and sweeter though. Diverse ingredients like blanched almonds, candied orange peels, and spices, including cloves, cinnamon, allspice, and black pepper combine in a symphony of taste.

The sweetness of the cinnamon and sugar contrasts with the spiciness of the pepper and cloves. The rum, a traditional ingredient, offsets the dryish taste of the cookie, resulting in a truly superior confection.

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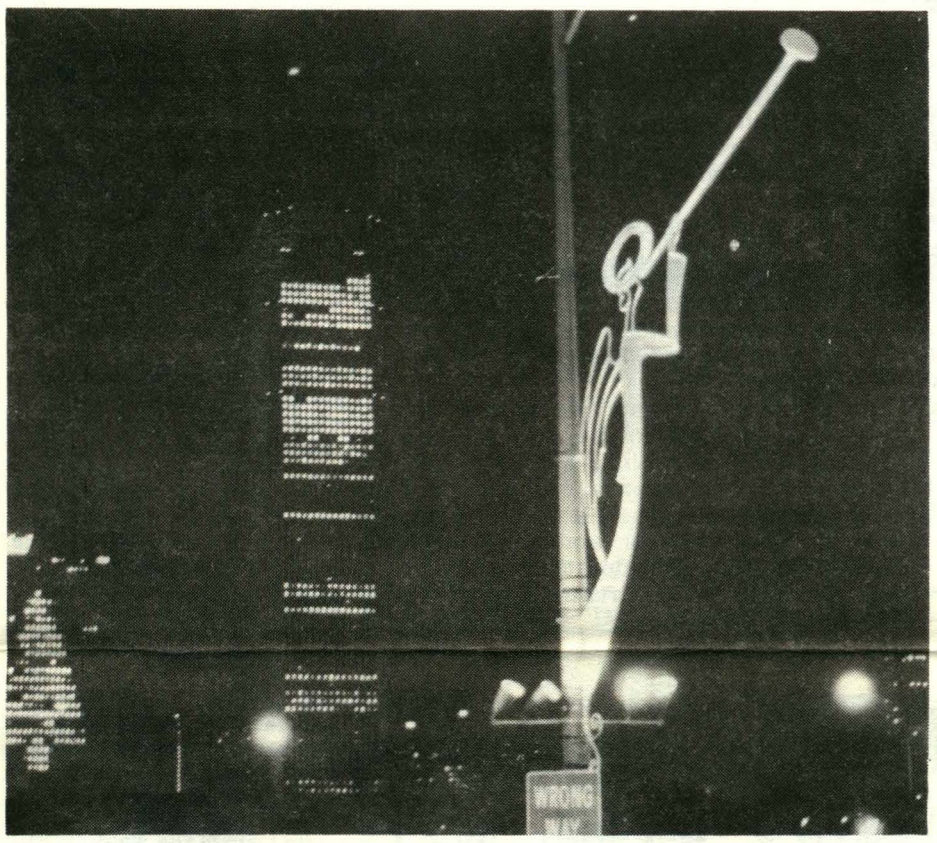


City decor accents Chicago's festive spirit.

City scene bustles merrily

by JoAnn Vasbinder

Chicago is more than the Windy City. With or without its world famous landmarks, Chicago has character and vitality found nowhere else. Chicago's people, the street performers, sales people, and yuppies all contribute to the vibrancy of Chicago. The excitement becomes even more intense during the Christmas season.

The sights and sounds of Chicago are one of a kind - electric, kinetic, and hypnotic. When Chicagoans want to see Christmas, they go to Daley Center Plaza where the city's enormous Christmas tree is lit up and to Marshall Field's to view the wonderful Yuletide scenes in the display windows.

There shoppers see children's faces light up as they push their way as close as they can to the windows. Once there, they proceed in pushing their cold, runny noses against the glass.

The smell of popcorn and roasted chestnuts cuts through the brisk winter air.

In state street toy departments and store windows, the furry friends capture the hearts of the young and the old. They wait to be purchased and hope to snuggle with new owners. Photos by Dave Landahl

Salvation Army collectors ring their bells on every corner. Both young and old donate their hard earned money to the less fortunate.

Shoppers hustle through the trampled down snow in search of the perfect gift. Enormous white snowflakes drift down from the sky while little children frantically stick out their tongues with hopes of catching some. The flakes cling to eyelashes and melt with every blink.

Trucks whirl by and kick slush at their wheels. Bells ring, horns honk, and children cheer, but all of the noise can be blocked out in the same instant by observing the serenity of the falling snow.

Indoors at Field's, shoppers carry as many boxes as possible while they bump into one another at every turn. Up in the balcony, a string quartet plays Christmas carols with elegance. Salespeople smile and wrap every purchase meticulously.

In the Walnut Room stands a majestic Christmas tree surrounded by tables packed with hungry shoppers. The wait in line seems eternal, especially since most people want to sit as close to the tree as possible.

Finally seated, they take off their coats and order. Carolers circulate throughout the dining area dressed in

Urban voyage seeks alternatives

by Tim Burke

With the approach of the holiday season and the impending Christmas break, students will search for ways to keep themselves entertained. Fed up with the usual drag of the suburbs, they will seek the excitement and bustle of the city in their quest for fun.

For older students, getting to the city presents little problem. Some have their own cars, and those who do not can sometimes persuade their parents into letting them have the car.

Chicago is easy to get to via the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290 East). Roosevelt road east leads to a left exit to the Eisenhower. The expressway runs directly into Chicago. It goes under the post office and turns into the Congress Parkway.

Once downtown, however, students may have difficulty finding a parking spot. Locating a parking space on the street is a task that requires a lot of luck and a great deal of patience.

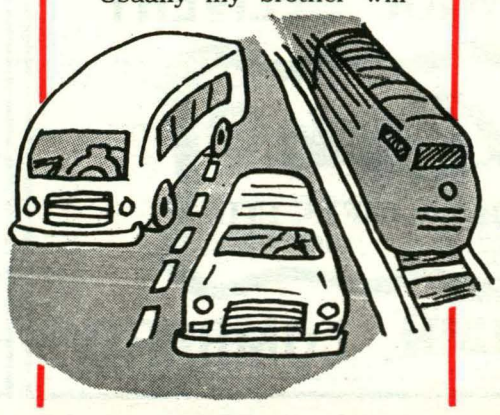
Those who cannot find a place to park can park in a city lot. Grant Park, an underground city parking lot located at Michigan and Congress, costs only $3.50. The Monroe garage, behind the Art Institute and on Monroe between Columbus and Lake Shore drive, also offers a $3.50 rate.

In the north Michigan avenue area, though, the rates are much higher.

Younger students who are not old enough for a driver's license must rely on an alternative means of transportation. Some go with older friends or relatives.

Sophomore Matt Hoganson went to the city with his cousin. "We went to Water Tower Place and had a great time," he said.

Others are fortunate to have an older brother or sister to drive them. Junior Chris Bakken relies on his brother to get downtown. "Usually my brother will take me there on the weekends," he said.



Those who cannot get a ride to the city should not despair. There are other ways to get directly into the heart of the city.

Many people may not be aware how easy it is to get to the city, even without the use of a car. For $2.65, a person can take the Chicago and Northwestern commuter train straight to downtown Chicago. The train leaves Lombard every hour on the half hour.

Then the only difficulty would be getting to the train station. Fortunately, there is a feeder bus service offered by the RTA that takes passengers to the station.

If the train is not satisfactory, the bus is also an alternative. Riders may catch a bus in Lombard and go to Oak Park. From there, the "L" train will take them downtown. The fee is only $1.10.

Once downtown, mobility about the town is no problem. Many students, of course, prefer to walk to save money.

Students who want to enjoy Christmastime in the city can find a mode of transportation that suits their budget and resources.

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After lunch, a trip to Santa Claus is a must. The line is endless, but there's always a scene to focus on. Mechanical elves wave and smile at the children but their robotics go unnoticed as the magic takes over.

On Santa's lap, some children smile, and some shriek for their mother. Many end up spilling out everything they want for Christmas.

After the visit to Santa comes the strategically delayed trip to the toy department. What child needs any new ideas? Every toy imaginable is on display.

Both young and old dart from toy to toy with their eyes bugging out in fascination. Distinguished men play with toy trains while their children pull at his coat tails begging for a turn.

Gargantuan teddy bears with fluffy red bows tied around their neck entice aunts, uncles, grandparents, and grandchildren. Dolls, trucks, mini musical instruments, and the more extravagant items dance like puppets in youngsters' minds.

Finally, it's time to go home. Feet ache. Faces are drawn and tired. Exhaustion and darkness blanket the city. Christmas is here, and there is no better place to find it than in Chicago.

Favorite spots lure suburbanites

by Chris Gorman

If shopping and dining become repetitive and boring and one more movie will induce stomach flu, a trip to Chicago could be a cure for the hometown blues. It offers unique restaurants, varied shops and exciting theaters to the afflicted.

The variety of restaurants allow the visitor to experience fine dining as well as the best pizza in the nation. The majority of people visit Chicago to experience variety.

Senior Jen Minser travels downtown to experience the exciting atmosphere of Ed Debevics. "It's not really the food. It's the atmosphere. The food resembles diner food," she said. Ed's is decorated with amusing signs. For example, the sign above the doorway contains the message 'Keep Chicago beautiful, wipe your feet before you go out," she said.

Physics teacher Leslie Nyckel enjoys the diverse dining. Her favorite restaurant in Chicago is Berghoffs because it has character. "The waiters are dressed in matching tuxedos, and they all have accents," she said.

Sophomore Kris Cerepa likes to dine at R.J. Grunts. "It's different, and it has swinging doors. It's a lot of fun," she said.

A romantic atmosphere attracts psychology teacher Jack Fielding to his favorite restaurant, Jovans. "I enjoy Jovans because it is small, intimate, and has a very creative menu," he said.

English teacher Jerry Namen has several favorite restaurants. One is the French Eatery in the Beldon-Stratford Hotel where many celebrities dine. Another is Hillary's in Water Tower Place. "It has a nice diverse menu, and they provide good service," Namen said.

The big city leads to avenues of excitement.

The Chicago area is packed with exciting and interesting shopping opportunities.

Senior Jen Ganske enjoys the new wave record store called Wax Trax. "There are a lot of bizarre people who dress strange and have weird hair. The store also contains many rare albums," she said.

Water Tower Place is a popular shopping attraction for Glenbard East students. "It's fun to shop in the awesome stores and see the awesome clothes," Cerepa said.

Nyckel also enjoys Chicago shopping. She frequents the stores on State street and watches the interesting people.

Chinatown is Minser's favorite. "It's unique, and I enjoy shopping in the novelty shops for exotic trinkets," she said.

The city offers cultural attractions in addition to shopping. "I enjoy visiting the Blackstone Theater to see a good play or musical," Fielding said.

From the theater goers to the connoisseur, the Chicago scene fits any bill.

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Compiled by the Glenbard East Echo

ed the experiences of thousands of youths
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— Chicago Tribune

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— Dallas Morning News (Associated Press)

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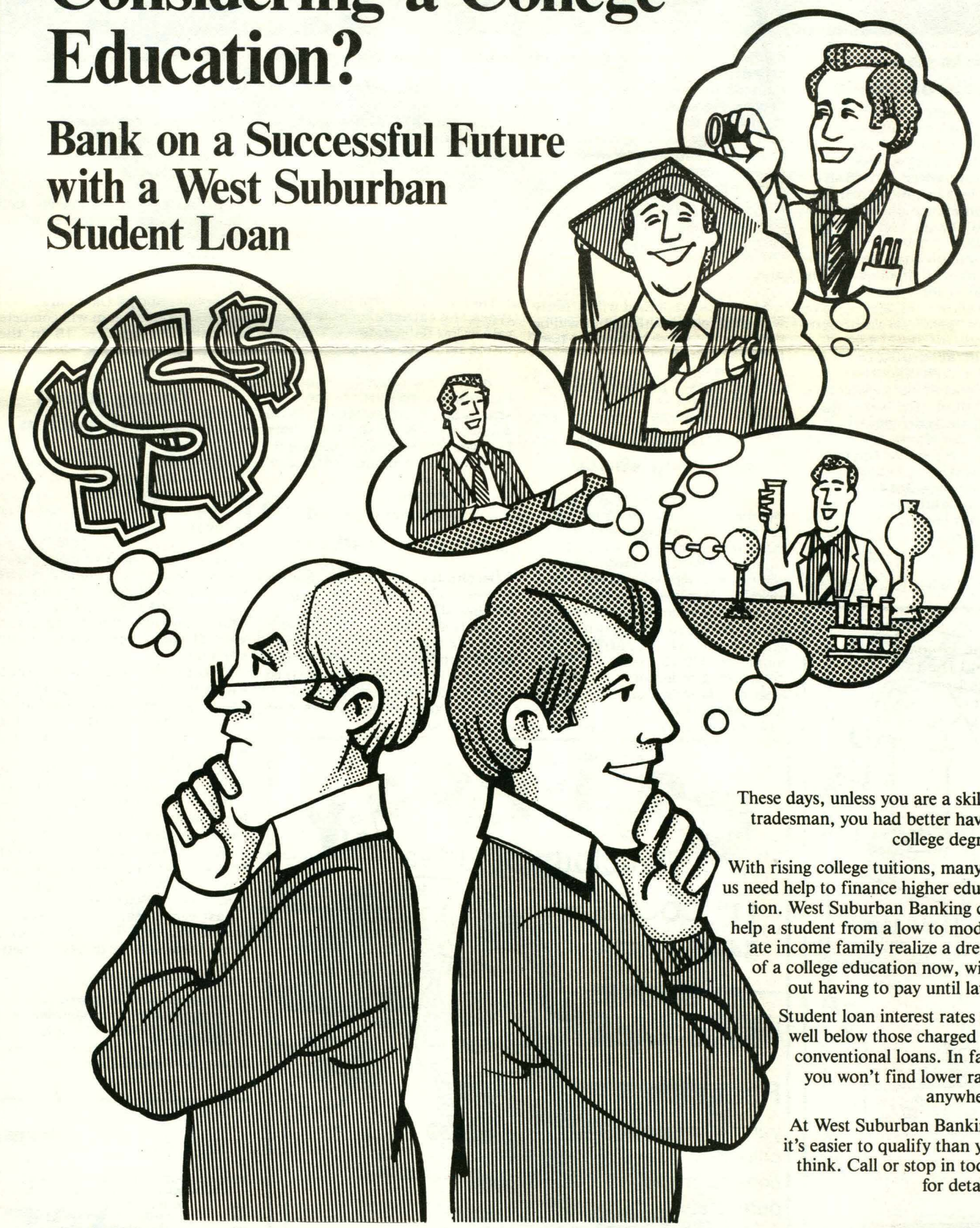

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Court speedsters shoot for team success

by Laura Ulfers

Intensity is the key word describing this season's varsity boys basketball team.

Tonight the Runnin' Rams will try to improve their 2-4 record against the West Chicago Wildcats.

Head Coach Jim Carter is excited about the intensity the enthusiasm that this season's team is showing. The team, according to Carter, started out faster than past teams. The Rams recorded their first victory of the season in their third game against Riverside-Brookfield 69-65 during the Willowbrook tournament.

"During the tournament we had kids walking out on the floor thinking, 'We're going to beat you," Carter said.

One factor that may affect the team is their small size. With only four players taller than six feet, the Runnin' Rams have switched strategy to pick up the game pace.

During the tournament players walked out on the floor with a positive attitude.

"We're quick this year," Carter said, "We're picking people up full court and going after them."

Senior center Darren Lange also identifies with the height loss. "Our rebounding is not as good, but now we have more speed which helps to bring up the ball faster and improve our fast break situation," he said.

Team unity is an important part of the Runnin' Rams intensity this season. According to Carter, the Rams will not rely on one or two people for points. Instead, they will utilize the entire team.

"We don't have just one player we're going to look at," Carter explained. "Against Riverside-Brookfield we had four players in double figures. This season we are expecting a lot out of all the kids."

The strongest point of the team, according to Lange, is shooting ability. "Our shooting is really strong because we really work a lot on outside shots during practice," he said.

The team unity may have contributed to the Rams early start this year.

"We didn't start playing the kind of basketball I wanted us to until the eleventh game last year. This year it only took us three games," Carter said.

Filling the positions of last year's seniors has not been a problem for the Rams.

With the start of the season going well, the Rams have high goals. Carter looks to get into double figures in the win column and finish in the top half of the conference.

"Two years ago we finished 3-11 and last year 4-10. This year we want to improve on that," Carter said. "We also wanted to make a good show at Willowbrook, which we did. We also want to do well in DeKalb."

The attitude of this season's Runnin' Rams offers hope for fulfillment of the team's goals.

"I've got 12 kids that believe in what I've been trying to get across to other teams for years. Last year it took 11 games. This year I've got 12 kids who believe in the team now."

Accent **on athletics**

Girls gymnastics:
'The freshmen have a lot of talent so the low number of upperclassmen does not matter.'

Floor hockey:
'It's a way to let your frustrations out just playing and moving around.'

Girls shoot for season goals

Shooting their way into a new year, the girls varsity basketball team hopes to rebound after last year's disappointing season.

The team, however, started off on the wrong foot by losing their first two non-conference games to Hinsdale Central, 47-37, and to Willowbrook 64-23.

The girl's main goals are to give 110 percent of themselves while playing and to enjoy what they are doing. "We work hard, and we have fun together," senior forward Sherri Kelly said.

The team, according to senior center Kate Hoyer, is faster and has better shooters than last year's squad. She thinks the team's greatest strength is its defense.

"The addition of new plays to the game plan is a plus for the team," senior forward Sue Edwards said.

Another strong point is the girls' positive attitude and the team work. She said that the increase in the team members also helps by allowing five-on-five scrimmages during practices.

The team's major weakness, according to Edwards, is its lack of experience. There are only four seniors on the squad, and two of the players are sophomores. Although the loss of last year's seniors has cost the team some experience, she thinks it will make little overall difference during the season. "We want to go out and do our best," Edwards said.

Wheaton North, according to Hoyer, will be the top contender in the conference. Wheaton Central and Naperville Central will also be touch opponents for Glenbard East.

She thinks that East will do fairly well this season although it will be difficult. "It looks a lot brighter than last year," she said.

The girl's next home game will be against Rosary on Jan. 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Runners keep one step ahead

In recent weeks, track team members and other students have been participating in a program called intramural run.

Jack Brady, boys cross country and track coach, started the intramural run program two years ago. At last 15 boys and 12 girls run regularly from 3 to 4 p.m. with Brady and George Abday, girls cross country and track coach.

According to junior Mary Marro, most people in intramural run are going out for track.

Brady added that "the opportunity is there for anyone who wants to run with us."

Track people, according to sophomore Brian Leahy, have to stay in shape during the off-season.

"I'm running to keep in shape from cross country to track season so I can do better," junior Laura Reuss said.

Not only do they run, but the runners also lift weights in the Universal weight room. "It's important also to build the upper body as well as the lower for running," Abday said.

The participants run outside in all types of weather except in heavy rain or low temperatures. They run in the hallways during continuing bad weather.

Intramural run will end during final exams week before the track season starts on January at Hinsdale Central. Brady and Abday hope for a good track season and that intramural run will improve the runners.

Hockey squad strives to end skid

Despite their 0-8 record, the ice hockey team strives to make up for the slow start.

The team started the season with the leadership of coaches Rick Plucinski and Tony Petruzzi.

"I think they push us fairly hard," junior Paul Bollinger said.

"They skate us harder," senior Rick Reeg said.

Bollinger pointed out that the team needs experience and needs to work harder. Reeg said that the team is young, but within time the team will reach its goals.

Junior Doug Hall pointed out that the team goal was to improve on their playing and work as a team.

Freshman Bob Ratkovich said that the key for the team to win is to work together on both offense and defense.

The team has competed against schools such as Naperville Central, Naperville North, Oak Park, and St. Charles. The team will compete against York on Dec. 15 in the Carol Stream rink.

Young squad flips into action

Stretching into the new season, the girls gymnastics team anticipates a competitive team.

"I expect a strong team by the end of the year," coach Bruce Beiersdorf said.

The team has had only three weeks preparation, but sophomore Cindy Cahill already has a positive attitude about the group. "This year's team is a lot better than last year. The freshmen are really good," she said.

One of the team's pluses, according to Beiersdorf, is the number of talented freshmen on the squad. "The freshmen have a lot of talent so the low number of upperclassmen does not matter," he said.

Out of 17 gymnasts, returning members include seniors Kelly Atkinson on bars and beam, Marnie Ladd on beam and floor, and junior Denise Dakis on the uneven bars.

"Working out over the summer really helped returners. We also have a lot more lessons with this year's team," Beiersdorf said.

Last year's team came in last in the conference, so to Beiersdorf, every team will be tough competition.

Cahill thinks the improved team is beneficial. "Because we're better, it inspires us to work harder and become even better," she said.

The next home meet will be Dec. 18 against Proviso East at 4:30 p.m.

Teams check floor hockey race

Dropping the books and picking up the sticks, hockey enthusiasts transform the north balcony into an instant playing floor for intramural after-school competition.

Twenty-one teams, 15 boys teams and six girls teams, make up intramural floor hockey. The season started Oct. 14 and continues until Jan. 14, the date of playoffs.

The leading teams include First Blood in the girls division, Flying Dutchmen in the frosh/soph boys division, and the Flames in the junior/senior boys division.

Despite the standings, winning is not the most important concern. "It is something that everyone can get involved in," senior Becky Bartlett said.

"Floor hockey is just for fun. Anyone can play. There is no big commitment. You don't have to be at practice everyday and it is fast action," sponsor Paul Humphreville said.

The atmosphere is what many students like. "I love competitive sports," junior Amy Bartt said.

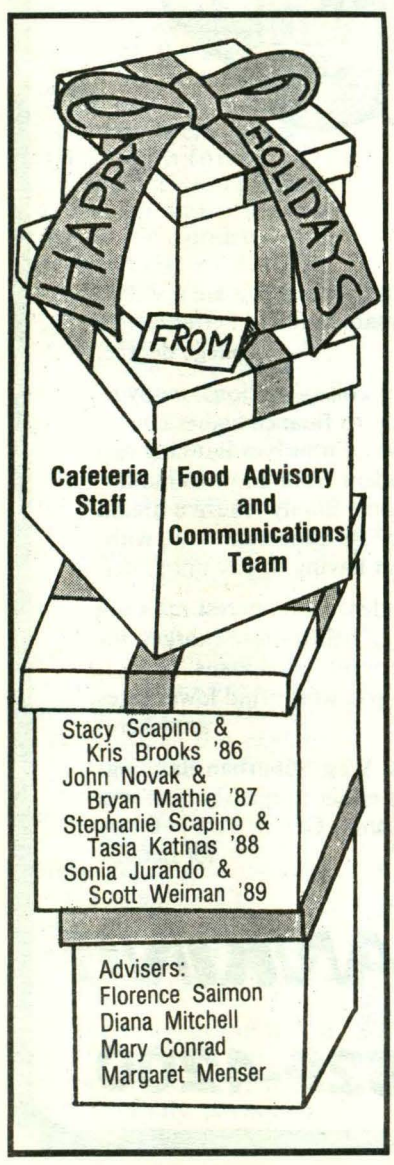
"It's a real good way to try something you really like," senior Mike Foy said. "It's a way to let your frustrations out, just playing and moving around."

Despite all of the benefits of floor hockey, many injuries have occurred. "There have been injuries since they started four years ago. Hockey is a fast paced, contact sport. There will always be injuries. This is the reason we want face masks and helmets," Humphreville said.

Sticks and hockey pucks have hit students. In some cases stitches were necessary. Students are concerned about the injuries and the effect they will have on next year's hockey program.

"I think the injuries will have an effect on next year's program. If I were the supervisor, I wouldn't do it. I would be surprised if they have it again next year," senior Greg Poulos said.

"There should be something before the season starts to teach all the rules - what to do and what not to do," Poulos said.



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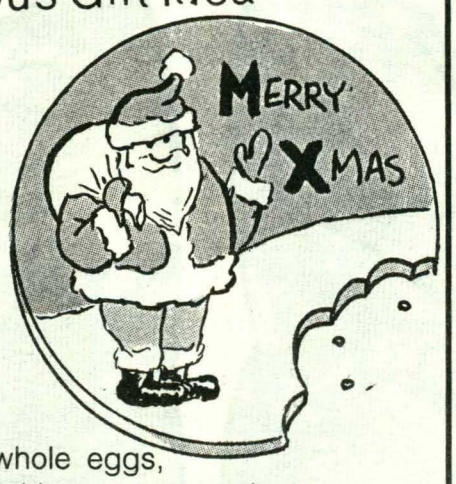


Game time

13	B. Basketball—W. Chicago (H)	9	Gymnastics—Glenbard S. (H)
	Wrestling—W. Chicago (A)		G. Basketball—Naperville N. (H)
14	Wrestling—GE tourney (H)	10	B. Basketball—Wheaton C. (H)
18	Gymnastics—Proviso E. (A)		Wrestling—Wheaton C. (A)
20	B. Basketball—Glenbard N. (A)	11	Wrestling—Glenbard W. (A)
	Wrestling—Glenbard N. (H)	16	G. Basketball—W. Chicago (A)
			Gymnastics—Glenbard N. (A)
23, 26-28	B. Basketball—DeKalb tourney	17	Wrestling—Wheaton N. (H)
27-28	G. Basketball—W. Chicago tourney		B. Basketball—Wheaton N. (A)
27-28	Wrestling—Rockford tourny	18	B. Basketball—Naperville C. (A)
January			Gymnastics (H)
4	Wrestling—Holy Cross (H)		Wrestling—Naperville C. (A)
6	G. Basketball—Rosary (H)		G. Basketball—Glenbard N. (A)
7	B. Basketball—Glenbard S. (H)	23	G. Basketball—Wheaton C. (H)
			Gymnastics—Wheaton C. (A)

Athletes question fan support

by Doug Addison

Attitude, according to many athletes, is the most important part of playing well. It is more important than skill, size, or experience.

"Athletes have to have talent or they wouldn't be on the team. Attitude has to be proven. An athlete that has his heart in the game will rise above those who don't," senior basketball forward Harold Frueh said.

"Attitude is super important, especially in team sports. A good attitude is the difference between winning and losing," senior gymnast Mark Ashton said.

The key to having a good attitude, according to most athletes, is the attitude of the coach. "He has to be a friend, someone who cares about the team and pushes them to win," senior Rich Yangas said.

Athletes often think that students get the wrong impression about the dedication of athletes and the attitudes they have towards their sport.

"A lot of people think our sports teams are a bunch of losers," junior athlete Alan Matuszak said. "But there's a big difference between not being good enough to win and not even trying."

According to athletes, though, students are too quick to change their opinions when a team performs poorly. "Students automatically say 'You stink' and blame

'A good attitude is the difference between winning and losing.'

the coaches," senior athlete Tony Moran said.

In contrast, junior Jacki D'Ambrosia thinks most students support athletics and try to maintain school spirit. "It's pretty discouraging for a student to belong to a school that hardly ever wins. Most students try to keep an optimistic attitude and try to support the school as much as possible," D'Ambrosia said.

Junior Parin Schmidt agrees. "Students have a positive attitude. Even if we don't win, it's still fun," he said.

Pep rallies appear to be the most effective way of getting students together to support athletes and the school. "Pep rallies get students psyched up for a game and promote a positive attitude," D'Ambrosia said.

"Students like pep rallies because they like to get hyper and pep rallies are a good place to do it," Schmidt said.

The athletes' view of themselves also plays a role in the attitude of the student.

"If our opinions go down about ourselves, then those of others go down with them. When that happens, we will never make progress," Matuszak said.

Frueh agrees that a poor team attitude is all too prevalent. "I see so many teams put themselves down and the students help them. Many students make snide remarks when a team gets blown out," Frueh said.

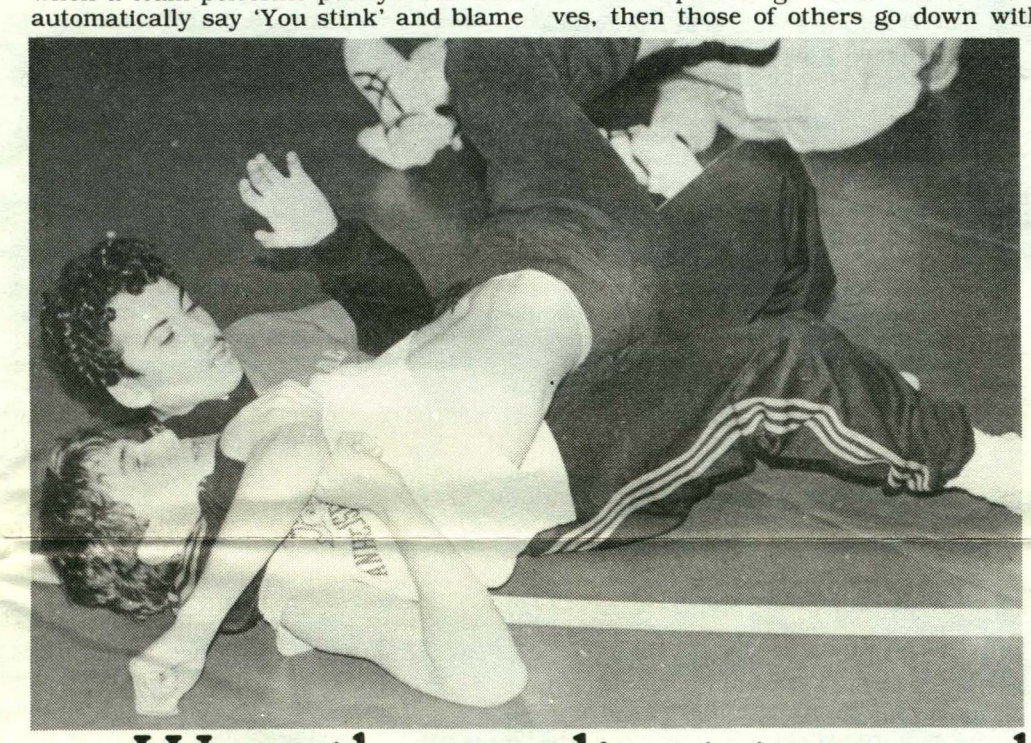
Sophomore Jeff Boone maintains that student support is important. "You have to let athletes know that everyone is behind them," he said. "Everyone should get involved in pep rallies and root for the teams."

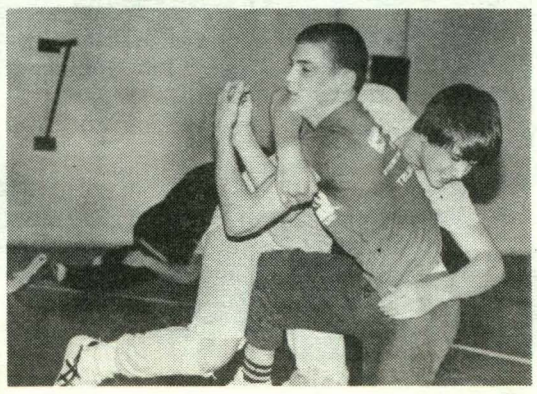
"Students don't know when the events are. To improve student support, more publicity should be given to sports activities so people know what's going on," D'Ambrosia said.

Carter disagrees. "Students who are really interested will find out about the upcoming events," he said.

Carter said that most athletes really try to improve themselves and the overall performance of the team. He added that hearing the students cheering for them is the best way to let athletes know that students care about the way they play.

The attitudes of students surprise a lot of athletes. Whether the athletes perform well or not, students find ways to show their support.





During an active afternoon practice, sophomores Harut Rushanian and Scott Wagner work on improving their mat technique while freshman Matt Rood counters a crossface from junior Jeff Schabilion.

The wrestling Rams completed last weekend's action with a record of 2-1. After losing to Naperville North, the state's fourth ranked team, 62-0 last Friday, they beat Montini and New Trier by scores of 36-24 and 47-21, respectively.

Wrestlers adjust to coaching reversal

by Christi Hart and Walt Martinez

Despite a change in coaches, the wrestling Rams are working to improve on last year's performance and pin down a successful season.

According to team members, the adjustment from former head coach Rich Kruse to current coach Gary Lenning was a slow process, but the transition went smoothly.

Kruse was removed after a District 87 school board decision. superintendent Robert Stevens could not comment on the situation until Kruse's appeal is heard during arbitrations on March 7.

"The adjustment took a while. A lot of the wrestlers are familiar with him because he coached them as freshmen," senior Rich Yangas said.

Even though the wrestlers have worked with Lenning in the past, some were disapponted by the abrupt coaching change. "Naturally, the guys were disappointed by the loss, especially the varsity members," junior John Novak said.

Although the comparisons made between Kruse and him pose a problem, Lenning has not found the transition from freshman coach to head coach difficult since he has previous experience. "I've been a head coach before so I know what kind of work is involved," he said.

Although Kruse is no longer coach, he still supports the team. "He comes to the meets, but he can only have so much input. He sits at the bottom of the bleachers and yells his encouragement," Yangas said.

The team members have noticed a distinct change in coaching techniques. "Kruse pushed us a lot at practice, but with Lenning you only get out of practice what you put into it," Yangas said.

"This year there is less emphasis on running and more on special techniques," junior Joe Fors said.

Although the team's record is 3-6, Lenning is optimistic about the rest of the season. "Three of our five losses have been by less than six points. We'll improve as the season progresses," he said.

The team will also improve after some wrestlers recover from injuries.

"This year's team is muscularly stronger, a lot of kids worked out on their own this summer. Some went to intensive camps that lasted from two to three weeks," Lenning said.

Yangas expressed a similar view of the team. "This year's team is better than last year's, but the record doesn't show it yet. We have very strong wrestlers at most weights and experienced seniors in four key weight classes," he said.

Christmas season will include not only family dinners and gifts but also plenty of action and excitement when Glenbard East basketball and wrestling teams participate in athletic tournaments.

Sidelines

by Robert Hester

Tourneys spur squads

Wrestling: New varsity wrestling coach Gary Lenning looks at the season tournaments, such as their tournament Dec. 27 and 28 at Rockford, as challenges to his team as individuals.

"Tournaments are more individual-oriented because in a dual meet everyone sits together, waiting for his match coming up, and they all sit together and cheer everyone on. In a tournament you might have two wrestlers going at the same time or no one at all for several minutes," he said.

In their first tournament, the wrestling Rams finished fourth out of eight teams at a Thanksgiving tournament hosted by Holy Cross.

Junior wrestler John Novak said that the tournaments have a different atmosphere from dual meets. "It is tougher to wrestle in tournaments because you want to spend all your energy in the first match. You get excited for the next match which may not be for another hour, or hour and a half. You just have to wait, and you can get psyched out," he said.

Lenning also said that preparing for tournaments is the same as preparing for dual meets. "You simply have to prepare the wrestlers to expect any move and be able to counter it," he said.

Boys basketball: According to varsity coach Jim Carter, the preparation process for tournaments, such as their Dec. 23-26 outing at DeKalb, is similar to the preparation for regular games.

"It is like preparing for your first game of the season. You have not seen the other team yet this year, and you do not know quite what to expect. When preparing, you cannot change much. You simply do what you do best and make sure you do it well. If you can do that well enough, you will do well," he said.

Carter thinks of tourneys as a challenge to himself as a coach and to his team. "Tournaments are a lot of fun. You go for a weekend, have fun playing several games, and watch a lot of basketball," he said.

During the Thanksgiving weekend, the Rams played at Willowbrook in their first tournament. Finishing the tournament with a 2-1 record, they tied with Downers Grove North for the co-championship.

Girls basketball: Senior forward Sue Edwards thinks that playing in tournaments, such as the one GE hosted last weekend, and their Dec. 26-28 West Chicago Tournament, is actually easier than playing in regular games.

When her team is playing in a tournament, Edwards said the other teams do not challenge the Rams as much as the Rams themselves do. "As a team, we just want to get everyone together and get everyone up for the tournament. We go out there and do our best. If that is not good enough, at least we tried," she said.

Edwards always looks forward to competition in tournaments. "You really get psyched up. You want to have fun, and you want to do well. You really have nothing to lose and everything to gain," she said.

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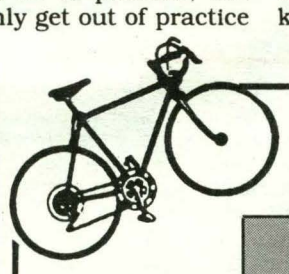
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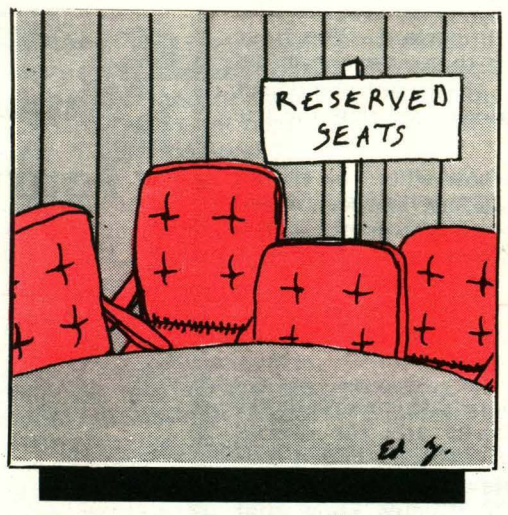
Election vote calls for board equality



Participating in an apparently democratic process, District 87 residents recently elected four representatives to the board. Unfortunately, for Glenbard North and East voters, the election reveals inadequacies in the current electoral system.

The Nov. 5 results indicates the election of three Glen Ellyn residents and one Lombard resident. Including current board members, both Glenbard West and Glenbard South hold three seats, East one, and North none. The current election marks the beginning of the third year North lacks representation on the board.

Even though the present board members may be objective and may not succumb to school partisanship, the potential for abuses in the current system looms over unrepresented Glenbards.

One fourth of the district's students and parents, those served by North, remain completely unrepresented. East, currently the largest school in the district, remains represented by one-seventh of the board.

Because the board determines expenditures and policies, schools without proper representation face the risk of losing board attention. The apportionment of capital expenditures and equipment may eventually tilt in favor of a highly represented school.

Voters from West and South should be commended on protecting their interests. Voters from North and East, however, should recognize the educational quality of the four Glenbards rests on equal representation.

Obviously, it is understandable that even the most objective board member's attention will invariably be focused on the school his or her children attend. Their naturally greater interest should be encouraged because concern for the learning processes promotes quality education. The inequity in representation, however, threatens the objectivity of the board.

To rectify the situation, the district should convene a committee to study possible changes in the election processes. One possible solution involves designating one seat on the board to each Glenbard. By allotting seats to each school, the board should insure minimal representation to each school.

A second option could include expanding the board so each school could hold two seats. By soliciting suggestions from the Citizen Advisory Committee and concerned individuals, the committee would have an abundance of suggestions to work with.

More importantly, however, citizens served by East and North should recognize that the educational quality of their schools rests upon their environment. Parents must protect the integrity of their school.

The district and the parents must act promptly to insure the board will remain not only nonpartisan but also representative of the district.

At Christmastime eager shoppers crowd stores to purchase packaged joy. Others, however, respond to human need in the true holiday spirit.

Left side — **Paulette Polinski**

Christmas tour shatters fantasy

A blanket of falling snow and crisp, clear air. Warm jackets and even warmer mittens. Decorated pine trees and lit up streets. And, of course, mobs of bustling shoppers with armloads full of packages.

Jack awakened with holiday spirit invading his every thought. The world was on fire, and he eagerly added fuel. But before Christmas festivities could begin, he had to deal with another holiday.

Turkey Day, as he called it, meant wearing stiff, new dress clothes to hug and kiss thousands of relatives.
But the day was soon over, and now the holiday season would kick into full swing because tomorrow the real shopping days begin.

He arrived on the scene early, hunting bargains. Excitement pulsed through the shopping mob and accelerated the already fast pace. All else was blotted out.

In the midst of the crowd he saw many who remained motionless, but he only passed them by in an attempt to keep in stride with the flow. The scene overwhelmed him. Instead of tripping behind on the heels of the experienced crowd, he stopped.

He continued on slowly, finally recognizing the spirits of the holiday shoppers in the view of every shop window. As he peered in, the "buy, buy, buy" attitude that motivated the crowd also filled the stores from wall to wall. Christmas green dominated the decor as shoppers were eager to spread a little holiday spirit.

Every shop window reflected the holiday spirit of the city. The outside world, lacking green, colored Christmas in a dark red hue. He saw the cold red faces of faceless people who dreaded snow like the kiss of death. He saw numb, mittenless hands, hopefully yet hopelessly, grasping at a little of the shoppers' spirit.

Suddenly, the city's decorative wrapping could not fool him. Each customer who left the green world with bundles of Christmas in two disrupted his view. But in the background a larger presence loomed. Everywhere decrepid, run down buildings painted the landscape gray. He could no longer ignore these houses of the faceless, where the multi-colored graffiti attempted to wrap out the cold.

He remembered benefit concerts for the poor that he had watched for free. He recalled thinking how great it was to see a concert for nothing. Now, however, a cold chill hit him as he remembered that his only experience with hunger pains were the stomach pains resulting from stuffing himself at holiday meals.

Back on the street, he heard the desparate, calling rings of the Salvation Army bell. As he reached into his pocket, he recalled the recent Thanksgiving and what he had missed. Now he would show his own thanks in giving, like the shopper, he would spread the holiday spirit.

Phys ed policy exercises inaction

by Mark Cerepa

The battle between athletics and academics has been raging for years. Luckily for some students, unfortunately for others, athletics usually gains the upper hand.

The new state education reform bill allows juniors and seniors to opt out of physical education if they meet one of three requirements: participating in interscholastic sports, enrolling in an academic course required for entry into a college, or taking a course for high school graduation.

At their Nov. 12 meeting, the District 87 school board discussed a policy that will meet the requirements of the law. Strangely enough, the policy is virtually the same as the physical education waiver policy adopted in 1976.

According to the new policy, there are three ways to obtain a PE waiver. The student may participate in an interscholastic sport which he participated in during the previous year. Or, he must prove that he cannot be admitted to an institution of higher learning if he does not take a specific academic course he could not take along with PE. Third, he may prove that he cannot graduate from high school at the usual time if he must take PE.

While the policy is a step forward, it still places an enormous limit on scheduling flexibility. By the set requirements, it is virtually impossible for the non-athlete to obtain the PE waiver.

It is difficult for a student to prove that he cannot graduate or be accepted to a college. The trouble is that students can easily reschedule by dropping an elective course. Since it is difficult to waive a required course, elective courses such as music or advanced science, would have to be dropped to meet the PE requirement.

The "new" PE waiver policy, then, is only a minute improvement over having no PE waiver at all.

The state should set its priorities on academics as well as on athletics. Students do not need four years of PE. Two years would suffice.

Also, graduation requirements are increasing. Freshmen and sophomores now need two years of math to graduate. Students are expected to fit extra requirements into the same schedule. Many believe that PE is a waste of time that they could use more productively. While PE should be offered, it should not be a four-year obstacle.

No other class is required for four years. Students can graduate with three years of English, two years of math, and two years of science, but they must endure physical education for four years.

Many students believe that an education in, for example, English, is more important than four years of going through the same sports units, year after year.

Physical education should not be given special attention. Two or three required years would be sufficient for most students' physical welfare.

While the PE department offers a wide variety of programs and electives, four years of the program is not important to every student. The quality of PE should remain, but the years enrolled need not be so extensive.

Perhaps another concern may be the effect lowering the PE requirement to two years would have on teachers losing their jobs. Teachers should have job security, but the school's priority is the students' education.

If all students were exempt from a year or two of physical education, a wide range of scheduling opportunities would develop. Students could take the courses that would prepare them for college or for a career more directly than PE would. Even early bird students could benfit from an extra course or an extra hour of sleep.

While some students may have extra time in their schedules and have no problem with PE, others would benefit from opting out of the course in favor of an advanced course or a college preparatory course. In the case of the overloaded student, the PE waiver would allow students to set their own priorities even if they do not need the course for college or for graduation.

The new reform bill and district policies are a step in the right direction, but they need to be strengthened for optimum flexibility and education for students.

Junior disputes hall practice

Dear Editor,

I am writing in concern to an incident that happened before school on Tuesday, Nov. 12. Some friends and I were sitting in front of our lockers, as many students do before school starts.

We were laughing and joking about events that had happened over the weekend when Mr. O'Connor walked out of his room, came over to us and told us that he did not appreciate our laughing.

He had hassled us other times about sitting in the hall before school, even though that seems to be the common practice, so we did not think anything of it when he walked away. Five minutes later, he returned with Dean Wolfe. The dean took me to his office and proceeded to suspend me for one day.

I know that in writing this letter I cannot change what happened. I have already served my suspension. I just thought it was unfair and that other students should have fair warning before they, too, are punished for something as trivial as laughing or having fun.

Steve Meyn '87

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